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Summer, 1985
Volume Three - Number One

MONTANA SOICC NEWSLETTER

MCIS/SOICC Merger

As of July 1, 1985, the Montana Career Information System (MCIS) will merge with the Montana SOICC, Research and Analysis Bureau, Montana Department of Labor and Industry.

MCIS provides information statewide to people with questions about career options or about the availability of training. The purpose is to help them discover occupations that suit their preferences, values, and abilities. Staff also make local contacts with people who know about specific occupations.

The merger is expected to provide a more stable funding base for MCIS to operate. There should be a reduction in duplicative administrative functions by joining the two programs.

Welcome aboard, MCIS!

Micro-OIS

The Montana SOICC was recently awarded a grant from the National Occupational Information Coordinating Committee (NOICC) for the implementation of a Microcomputer Occupational Information System (Micro-OIS). This program is designed for use on an IBM personal computer.

Micro-OIS delivers supply/demand information in an easily useable form. Montana's data will be entered into the program to tailor it to our state's needs.

Montana selected this system because the Micro-OIS offers a cost effective, practical means of providing planning information. Many Montana institutions and agencies already have IBM or compatible equipment to use the system. Occupational information will be transferred onto floppy diskettes for use in the field, and updated as necessary.

When fully implemented by February of 1986, the Micro-OIS should prove ideal for the delivery of current information to support the planning process for education and training programs.

Baby Boom Generation Affecting Marketplace

Baby boomers, people born between 1946 and 1964, will dramatically affect the marketplace in the coming years. Because baby boomers have more purchasing power than their parents did at the same age, they will mold and change the marketplace.

By 1990, 50% of American households will be headed by a baby boomer. Almost 25% of them make at least \$35,000.

The Automotive Industry is designing new cars to appeal to the baby boom generation, as are the clothing and fast food industries. Hotels and motels are adding services to appeal to baby boomers, such as child care facilities and sports facilities. Over 60% of baby boomers are homeowners, and

economists predict the housing industry will get a big boost from baby boomers in the next 10 years, as Americans 35 to 44 account for for more than 40% of all new home purchases.

By 1995, the number of baby boom workers 31 to 56 will grow by nearly 21 million, while the number of young people trying to find work will decline. Baby boomers tend to be less loyal to one company, and move to organizations where individual opportunities are greatest. The U.S. Dept. of Labor predicts the number of middle-management jobs will rise 19% while the number of workers 35 to 46 will increase 42 percent, resulting in proportionately fewer promotions. As a result, many boomers are starting their own business.

Source: Georgia-SOICC Newsletter

Career Redirections for Adults

This information presents materials for a workshop designed to teach adults how to identify and explore their career options. A wide variety of agencies and institutions will find the information useful in assisting the out-of-school adult with life and work experience who wants to assess a current career or life situation. Included are the following eight units:

- Personnel Preference: What is Important to Me?
- Skill Assessment: What Do I Do Well?
- Career Exploration: Comparing the Ideal and the Real
- Decision Making: Weighing the Alternatives
- Interest Assessment: What Do I Enjoy?
- The Great Leap: From Who I Am to What I Want
- Personal Job Readiness: Overcoming Barriers
- Implementation: Where to Go From Here

Each unit includes materials for both facilitators and participants. The units are arranged sequentially, but can be arranged to meet the needs of specific groups. Cost is \$24.95; order from the developer - Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, 300 Southwest Sixth Street, Portland, OR 97204.

Montana Advisory Council for Vocational Education

In their 15th Annual Report, the Montana Advisory Council for Vocational Education (MACVE) quotes a writing on work by Kahlil Gibran (reprinted from The Prophet, 1927).

On Work

And he alone is great who turns the voice of the wind into a song made sweeter by his own loving.

Work is love made visible.

And if you cannot work with love but only with distaste, it is better that you should leave your work and sit at the gate of the temple and take alms of those who work with joy.

For if you bake bread with indifference, you bake a bitter bread that feeds but half a man's hunger.

And if you grudge the crushing of the grapes, your grudge distills a poison in the wine.

And if you sing though as angels, and love not the singing, you muffle man's ears to the voices of the day and the voices of the night.

This writing presents quite a challenge, part of which is directly connected to effective career and labor market information counseling. If those who are making career decisions are given comprehensive information, informed choices will be made. And, jobs that more closely meet the needs of people will more likely be found.

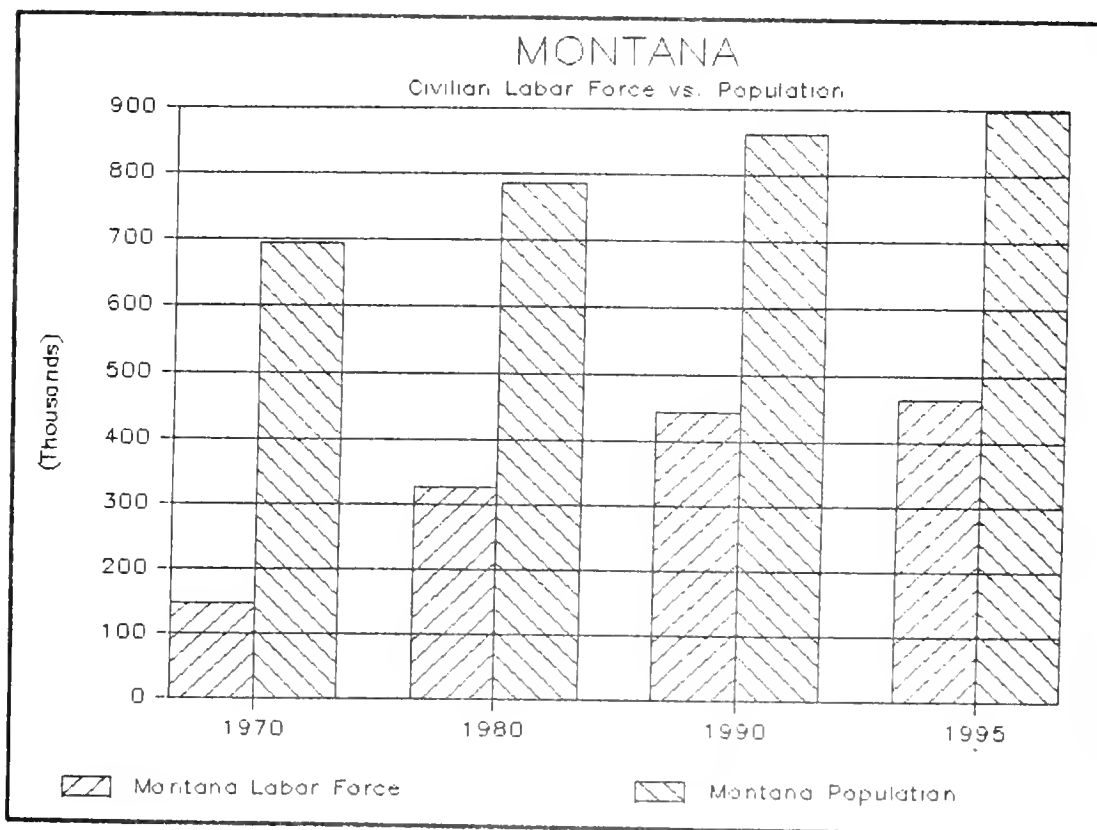
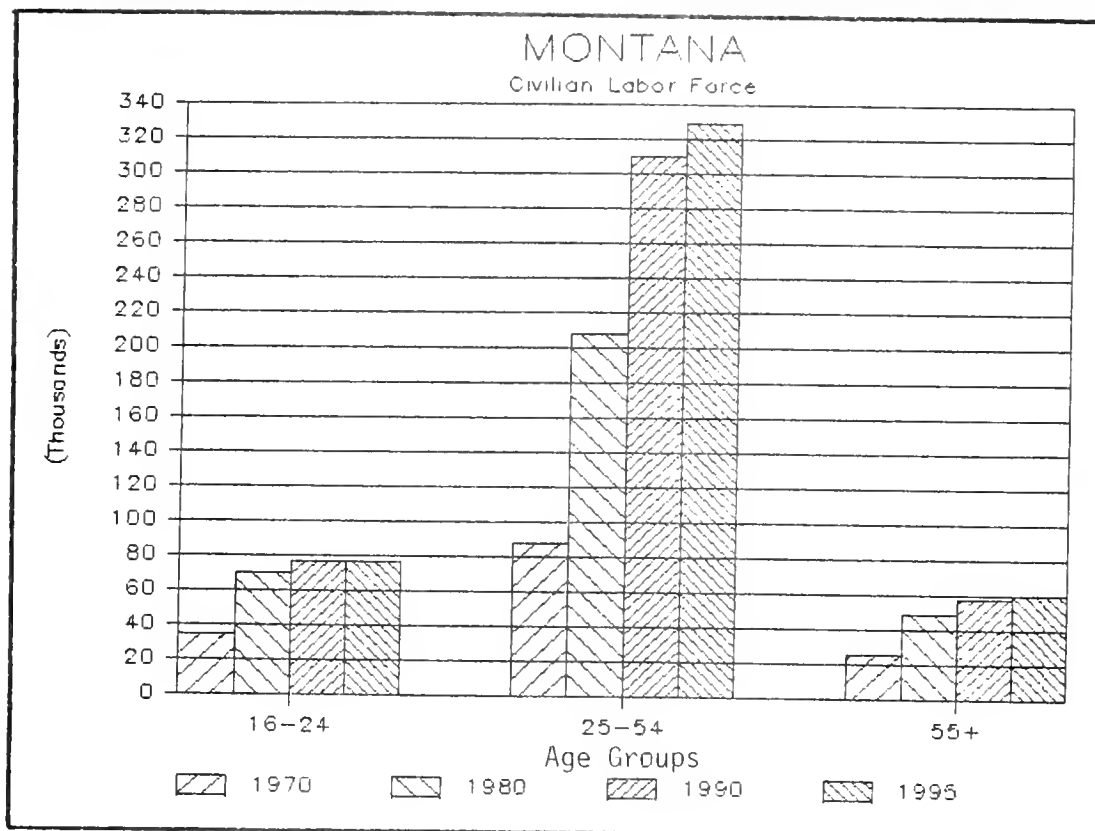
If you would like more information on MACVE, write to 1228 Eleventh Avenue, Helena, MT 59620 (Attention: K. Penrod, Executive Director).

Montana Labor Force and Population Projections

MONTANA Civilian Labor Force (CLF) (In Thousands)				
Age Group	1970	1980	1990	1995
16-24	35.1	70.6	77.2	77
25-54	88.8	208.8	310.6	329
55+	25.6	48.9	58	60.3
Total CLF	149.5	328.3	445.8	466.3
=====				
Total Population	694.4	786.7	862	898
% of Pop. Working	21.5%	41.7%	51.7%	52%

With the projected demographic changes, fewer youth will be working, female workers will increase, and a more experienced work force may help productivity.

On the negative side, adult workers may be laid off. Perhaps more retraining needs to be emphasized because job skills are constantly changing.



Kate Kahle, Editor
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Robert N. Arnold, Program Manager
 Montana SOICC

(6610)



If you would like to contribute to this newsletter, contact the Montana SOICC at Post Office Box 1728, Helena, Montana 59624. The Montana SOICC reserves the right to edit all information submitted.

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